

Permits required by the Montgomery County Fire Marshal.

On November 28th, 2006 the Montgomery County Council approved a local regulation that allows the Montgomery County Fire Marshal to issue permits. These permits fall into 4 broad categories, **Operational** Permits, **General** Permits, **Miscellaneous** Permits and **License** Permits.

Operational Permit- An **Operational** permit is a permit that is issued to all fire protection systems. Examples of a fire protection system would include, fire sprinkler, fire alarm, private hydrant, standpipe, fire pump, emergency generator, (only those generators that provide secondary power to a fire protection system or emergency lights), Kitchen suppression systems, or any special hazard like CO2 or Clean Agent. **Operational** permits are issued annually. The cost is \$50.00 per fire protection system.

An **Operational** Permit issued by the Fire Marshal is **not** required to install, modify, delete, or change in any way a fire protection system. You would however, need to obtain a Fire Protection System Permit. These type permits are issued by the Department of Permitting Services. Use the below link to get you started.

<http://permittingervices.montgomerycountymd.gov/dpstmpl.asp?url=/permitting/bc/buildingconstruction.asp>

General Permit- A **General** permit is a permit that is issued to an address to approve Amusement and Entertainment events, Flammable and Combustible liquids and gases use and storage, Flammable and Combustible solids use and storage, Hot Work, and Motor Vehicle Repair and Storage. The fee for a **General** permit is \$70.00. **General** Permits may need to be renewed annually or they may be issued with an end date. A good example of a **General** permit to be renewed annually is a **General** Permit issued to a Gas Station. A good example of a **General** Permit having an end date would be to, “To place and operate a Tar Kettle.” The inspection and 1 reinspection are provided without a charge.

Within the **General** Permit category, there is a permit known as a “**Special Event** Permit.” A **Special Event** Permit is required if you choose to do the following.

To conduct or operate any scary house, crop maze, carnival, fair, exhibit, trade show, concert or other public event that presents an unusual life safety or Fire Hazard.

If you are having an event that meets these criteria please go to

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/firemarshal

and complete a **Special Event** permit application. Once completed, you will be contacted by a supervisor from the Office of Fire Marshal for follow up.

Miscellaneous Permit- A **Miscellaneous** Permit will be issued to any commercial establishment not elsewhere covered in this regulation. The cost is \$25.00. This type of permit is renewed annually, or when there is a change of ownership or use group. Examples of when a **Miscellaneous** Permit is applicable would include,

- 1) A business inside a suite or room within a high rise office building.
- 2) A stand alone business without any fire protection systems. (Like a bank or a funeral home.)
- 3) A coffee shop, cleaners, or other type of business inside a grocery store.

A **Miscellaneous** Permit issued by the Fire Marshal will not be generated until a Fire/Life Safety inspection has been conducted and passed by a fire Inspector. The inspection and 1 reinspection are provided without charge.

License Permits- A **License** permit is required by the Fire Marshal when another agency requires our services to gain approval. Some examples of another agency would include,

1. Department of Health and Human Services.(For Group homes)
2. Office of Child Care. (For Family Day Care, Group Family Day Care and Day Care Centers.)
3. Maryland State Police.(For Vehicle inspection facilities)
4. Maryland State Department of Education. (For Private Schools)
5. D.L.L.R- (For Migratory Camps, summer camps)

License permits require an inspection be completed and passed prior to the issuance of a **License** Permit.

It is the goal of the Fire Marshal to have every address (with the exception of a single family home not used for a business) captured in a Fire Department database. This database will serve the Fire Department well if an emergency ever occurs at an business address in Montgomery County. The Fire Marshal is hopeful that this permit plan will keep Montgomery County safe to work in, shop in and live in.

If you have any additional questions please call or email Captain John Feissner @ (240) 777-2436 or john.feissner@montgomerycountymd.gov .